THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA): (a) Government have revamped the rural development schemes effective from the current financial year. Guidelines for the revamped schemes have already been issued. Self-Employment Programmes have been revamped by merging Integrated Rural development Programme (IRDP), Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), Supply of Improved Tool-Kits to rural Artisans (SITRA), Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM), Ganga Kalyan Yojana (GKY) and Million Wells Scheme (MWS) into a holistic scheme called Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) with the objective of establishing a large number of micro-enterprises in the rural areas and building upon the potential of the rural poor. Jawahar Rozgar Yojana has been revamped as Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana with the primary objective of creating demand driven village infrastructure, including durable assets to enable the rural poor to increase the opportunities for sustained employment. Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) has now been made an allocation based scheme.

UNDP Assisted Programmes for Handloom, Handicraft Sericulture Sectors

1505. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various programme to be launched through UNDP assistance in handloom, handicrafts and sericulture sectors in the country;

(b) the various special programmes on sericulture, handloom and handicrafts proposed to be taken up in the North East during the Ninth Five Year Plan and present status of their implementation; and

(c) the status of implementation of work-shed cum Housing Scheme in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Under Fibers and Handicrafts Programme (FHAP) of the Government of India-UNDP Country Cooperation Framework-I (CCF-I), *inter-alia* three programmes covering non-mulberry silk, hand knotted carpets

and cane & bamboo have been launched for a duration of three years at an outlay * of UNDP component of Rs. 17.71 crores and Government of India contribution of Rs. 13.33 crores as per the following details:—

SI. No.	Project	Project Area	Activities
1.	Non-mulberry silk	Assam, Bihar, Meghalaya, Orissa and West Bengal	Human Resource Development and Skill Upgradation, Enhance Quality of Seed, Establishment of Private Graineurs and Commercial rearers, Establishment of Common Facility Centre, Upgradation of looms.
2.	Hand Knotted Carpets	Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir	Enhance indigenous design capabilities, and provide design support to the hand knotted carpet industry, develop improved looms, Human Resource development, skill upgradation and training of craftsmen/ artisans, strengthening and upgradation of Institute of Carpet Technology (ICT), establish and enhance marketing and export linkages.

SI. No.	Project	Project Area	Activities
3.	Cane & bamboo	Andaman & Nicobar islands, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam Kerala, Manipur & Tripura	Setting up- of integrated gene pool banks, tissue culture and plant multipliction nurseries, farms with NGOs/local farmers, common facility centres, production centres, upgradation of tools and technology, Human Resources Development for farmers & artisans, design diversification.

(b) The details of the programmes to be taken up in the North East during the 9th Five year plan and the present status of implementation are as follows:

I. Sericulture Programme:

(i) 76 schemes under Catalytic Development Programmes involving an outlay of Rs. 12.27 crores have been approved for North Eastern States. An amount of Rs. 1.60 crores has been released for this purpose so far.

(ii) An integrated Muga & Eri Project with an outlay of Rs. 95.04 crores has been prepared for implementation in North Eastern States of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Mizoram.

(iii) The Government of Manipur is implementing Manipur Sericulture Project with financial assistance from Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF), Japan. This project comprises two phases and the first phase of the project with an outlay of Rs. 134.52 crores has been approved.

II. Handloom Sector:

Various scheme *i.e.* project package, Work-shed-cum-Housing, Group Insurance, Thrift Fund, New Insurance, Health Package are being implemented and funds to the tune of Rs. 1949.04 lakhs were released to North Eastern States during 1998-99.

III. Handicraft Sector:

The UNDP project is in the initial stage of implementation. However, for the setting up of Common Facility Centers, a sum of Rs. 77.80 lakhs has already been released to various organisations. Also 10% of the Plan Budget is earmarked for North Eastern Regions. Besides, 100% reimbursement is permissible to NGOs/ Corporation of NE region for organising exhibitions under the approved Plan Schemes of Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts).

(c) Under the scheme of work-shed cum Housing, funds to the tune of Rs. 78.37 lakhs were released to the State of Assam during 1997-98 and 1999-99 and 1131 weavers were benefited.

Use of Spare Land of NTC Mills

†1506. SHRI JANESHWAR MISRA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several textile mills of N.T.C. are clsosed for several years;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of such mills;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a lot of land is lying unused with these mills; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to revive these mills and to use the spare land entangled with these property?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b): No NTC mill has been closed except Ajudhia Textiles Mills, Delhi which was closed as per the Supreme Court order on polluting industries.

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†Original Notice of the Question was received in Hindi.